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April 28, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Status Inquiry - Patent Application Serial No. 10/716,040  
Filing Date: 11/17/2003  
Inventor: Richard Heiss, Sam LaFata

Dear Commissioner:

The undersigned is the attorney of record for the subject inventor. The subject application for utility patent was filed on November 17, 2003, but no correspondence has been received as of the letterhead date regarding the status of the examination of the application. Please advise as to the status of the examination.

Very Truly Yours,

JAMES M. DUNCAN

cc: Dr. Richard Heiss  
Sam La Fata

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